

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

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For Immediate Release –July 20, 2004 Contact: Linda Barth or Angela Hong

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Statement from PSC Chairperson Burnie Bridge Commending The Governor's Task Force on Energy Efficiency and Renewables

"I welcome the recommendations from the Governor's Task Force on Energy Efficiency and Renewables. They offer a common sense approach to lowering Wisconsin's dependence on fossil fuels.

I appreciate the hard work of the members of the Task Force that led to a well-thought-out plan to address energy policy in Wisconsin and I congratulate Task Force Chair Lee Cullen for his work in bringing a very diverse group together and building a consensus package.

The work of the Task Force is a very important part of the overall strategy to help the state meet growing demand for energy, which increases at about 2.5% every year. Increasing energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources can postpone the need to build new power plants and reduce the size of the power plants we must build.

I am also pleased with the recommendations to better coordinate the PSC's involvement in energy efficiency with the public benefits programs at the Department of Administration. It is important that we address these issues in a more uniform, coordinated way and that we work hand-in-hand as the programs are implemented.

I look forward to reviewing the final Task Force report and working with Task Force members to move these recommendations forward."

Burnie Bridge, Chairperson Public Service Commission of Wisconsin July 20, 2004

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